

## Government Participation and You On A Local Level

This entails 2 separate sets of information relating to the same thing.

The first deal with the basic identification of the people's rights to participate in the government on a local level as far as meetings are concerned.

The second (page 10) specifically focuses on whether a judicial action can be brought to void a decision or action taken during a local government's meeting, who has the ability to bring such suit and what type of liability. Find the particular State doing business in your geographical bound, and be intimately familiar with how things of this subject matter work there. You are part of the government as the consent of the governed is required. Do not allow anyone to pull the wool over your eyes because it sounds catchy to say otherwise. Most who seek out positions of public trusts quite often as a young human have been stripped once of power and the positions are the way to prove to themselves that they are significant. Only very few that occupy positions of public trust are balanced spiritually, and emotionally. Either those or some humans are just so far removed from reality based on a certain level of privilege and easy mode in life that they lack basic reasoning skills about the position of public trust they are to be concerned with. Do not allow someone's issues to be yours. The only way that is possible is by you being competent and well informed.

The Patreon post that corresponds with this PDF is found [here](#).

Please note that some legislatures are amended some in the future some of these may be outdated so it is emphasized here that you become intimately aware and updated with the particular ones you seek to be one with.

Subtle Substance

|            | Statute or Act                                     | Exclusions and Exceptions                                                                                                                              | Public Comment Rights                                                                                           | Common permitted closed-session subjects                                                                                                   | Remedies and penalties statutes                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Alabama    | Alabama Open Meetings Act, Ala. Code §§36-25A-1-14 | Courts; legislative caucuses; specified governmental functions; executive sessions under §36-25A-7                                                     | No general statutory right                                                                                      | Personnel/reputation; legally confidential matters; pending/imminent litigation; negotiations; security                                    | Civil penalty \$1-\$1,000 or ½ monthly salary, whichever less, per violation; equitable relief §36-25A-9.                                                                                                       |
| Alaska     | Open Meetings Act, AS 44.62.310-.312               | Certain adjudicatory/judicial proceedings; executive sessions authorized by §44.62.310(c)                                                              | Limited: municipalities have reasonable right to be heard under AS 29.20.020; not universal statewide OMA right | Personnel; attorney-client/legal strategy; labor; real estate; matters involving protected information                                     | Generally equitable enforcement; no specific OMA fine; individual liability generally unavailable AS 44.62.310-.312.                                                                                            |
| Arizona    | Open Meeting Law, A.R.S. §§38-431-431.09           | Courts; legislative caucuses; specified judicial/appointment proceedings §38-431.08                                                                    | Limited: public bodies may conduct an open call to the public §38-431.01(H)                                     | Personnel; litigation/legal advice; real estate; negotiations; confidential information; security                                          | Civil penalties; attorney fees; court can invalidate action; knowing violations can result in personal penalties principally §§38-431.07, 38-431.08.                                                            |
| Arkansas   | FOIA/Open Meetings, Ark. Code §§25-19-101-110      | Judicial proceedings; specified personnel, records and legally confidential matters                                                                    | No broad FOIA-based right                                                                                       | Personnel; employment; licensing; litigation; security; confidential matters                                                               | Criminal/civil enforcement; attorney fees; action can be challenged principally §§25-19-107, 25-19-109                                                                                                          |
| California | Ralph M. Brown Act, Cal. Gov. Code §§54950-54963   | State bodies covered separately by Bagley-Keene; Legislature has separate rules; closed sessions only when expressly authorized §§54962, 54956-54957.9 | Strong: agenda items + matters within body's jurisdiction §54954.3                                              | Personnel; litigation; real estate negotiations; labor negotiations; security/threats; certain licensing/medical matters §§54956.7-54957.9 | Cure/correct; injunction/declaratory/mandamus relief; action may be declared null and void §§54960, 54960.1; misdemeanor for knowing intentional violation with intent to deprive public of information §54959. |

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| Colorado | Open Meetings/Sunshine Law, Colo. Rev. Stat. §24-6-401 et seq. | Chance/social gatherings; executive sessions under §24-6-402 | No statutory general right | Property; personnel; legal advice; negotiations; investigations; security | Action taken in violation is invalid; prevailing plaintiff gets costs/attorney fees §24-6-402(8)-(9); no general OML fine. |
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| Connecticut | FOI Act Meetings, Conn. Gen. Stat. §§1-200–1-242 | Courts; personnel evaluations/hearings; strategy/litigation; real estate; security and other §1-200(6) matters | No general statutory right | Personnel; strategy/litigation; real estate; security; collective bargaining | Injunction/declaratory relief; civil penalties; action may be affected by court order principally §1-206 |
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| Delaware | FOIA Open Meetings, 29 Del. Code §§10001–10006 | Judicial proceedings; executive sessions under §10004(b) | No general statutory right | Personnel; litigation; real estate; negotiations; confidential records; security | Court enforcement; civil penalties; attorney fees; action may be invalidated §§10005–10006 |
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### Subtle Substance

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| Florida | Government in the Sunshine Law, Fla. Stat. §§286.011–286.012; §286.0114 | Statutory exemptions; quasi-judicial proceedings under specified circumstances; special statutory exemptions | Yes: reasonable opportunity to be heard on propositions §286.0114; exceptions include emergencies, ministerial acts and quasi-judicial meetings | Personnel; litigation; attorney-client; certain negotiations; security; statutory exemptions | Noncriminal infraction; knowing violation is misdemeanor; attorney fees §286.011(3), (7). Importantly, §286.011(8) says an action is not automatically void merely because of a Sunshine violation. |
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| Georgia  | Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. §§50-18-70-75     | Courts; executive-session subjects under §50-18-72                                                             | No general statutory right                                                                         | Personnel; litigation; real estate; attorney-client; security; negotiations                                            | Civil penalties; attorney fees; knowing/willful violations can carry criminal consequences §50-18-74      |
| Hawaii   | Sunshine Law, HRS Chapter 92, §§92-1-92-13    | Judiciary/quasi-judicial/investigatory functions under §92-6; limited meetings; executive sessions under §92-5 | Yes: testimony/data/views on agenda items §92-3                                                    | Personnel; hiring where privacy involved; litigation; attorney-client; property; investigations; protected information | Board action may be voidable §92-11; enforcement §92-12; penalties §92-13.                                |
| Idaho    | Open Meeting Law, Idaho Code §§74-201-206     | Certain judicial/quasi-judicial proceedings; executive sessions under §74-206                                  | No general statutory right                                                                         | Personnel; litigation; real estate; labor; records; security                                                           | Civil penalties and enforcement §§74-208, 74-211; action can be challenged                                |
| Illinois | Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq.       | Judicial proceedings; certain administrative/adjudicatory proceedings; §2(c) exceptions                        | Yes/limited: public bodies must provide an opportunity for public comment under 5 ILCS 120/2.06(g) | Personnel; litigation; real estate; collective bargaining; security; attorney-client                                   | Court may invalidate action; civil penalties; attorney fees principally §3, §3.5                          |
| Indiana  | Open Door Law, Ind. Code §§5-14-1.5-1 et seq. | Executive sessions under §5-14-1.5-6.1; certain statutory exclusions                                           | No general ODL right                                                                               | Personnel; litigation; property; strategy; job negotiations; confidential information                                  | Injunction/mandamus; action can be voided in qualifying circumstances; civil penalties §§5-14-1.5-7, -7.5 |
| Iowa     | Open Meetings Law, Iowa Code §§21.1-21.11     | Certain contested cases; executive sessions under §21.5                                                        | No general statutory right                                                                         | Personnel; litigation; real estate; negotiations; security; records                                                    | Civil penalties; court enforcement; action may be invalidated §21.6                                       |

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| Kansas        | Open Meetings Act, KOMA, K.S.A. §§75-4317-4330             | Executive sessions under §75-4319; judicial proceedings and other statutory exclusions | No general KOMA right                                            | Personnel; attorney-client; litigation; property; negotiations                    | Civil penalties against individuals; injunction/mandamus; §75-4320a                      |
| Kentucky      | Open Meetings Act, KRS §§61.800-850                        | Executive sessions under §61.810; quasi-judicial/other statutory exceptions            | No general statutory comment right                               | Personnel; litigation; real estate; negotiations; collective bargaining; property | Civil penalties; attorney fees; court enforcement §61.848, §61.991                       |
| Louisiana     | Open Meetings Law, La. Rev. Stat. §§42:11-28               | Executive sessions under §42:17; adjudicatory and legally confidential matters         | Limited/depends on body and meeting                              | Personnel; litigation; attorney-client; real estate; negotiations; security       | Civil penalties; attorney fees; injunction/mandamus; action can be challenged §§42:24-26 |
| Maine         | Freedom of Access Act, 1 M.R.S. §§401-414                  | Executive sessions under §405; judicial proceedings; confidential statutory matters    | No universal statutory comment right                             | Personnel; litigation; real estate; labor; economic development; records          | Civil penalties; injunction/declaratory relief; attorney fees in specified cases §409    |
| Maryland      | Open Meetings Act, Md. Code, Gen. Provisions §§3-101-3-501 | Executive sessions under §3-305; judicial/quasi-judicial matters                       | No general statutory right to speak                              | Personnel; legal advice; litigation; property; security; investigations           | Compliance orders; civil penalties; attorney fees in qualifying cases §3-401 et seq.     |
| Massachusetts | Open Meeting Law, Mass. Gen. Laws ch.30A §§18-25           | Executive sessions under §21; judicial/adjudicatory proceedings                        | No universal right; public participation may be provided by body | Personnel; litigation; real estate; collective bargaining; security; strategy     | Attorney General enforcement; civil fines; court orders; action can be invalidated §23   |
| Michigan      | Open Meetings Act, MCL                                     | Closed sessions under §15.268; certain personnel/attorney-                             | Yes: public body must provide reasonable                         | Personnel; attorney-client;                                                       | Action may be invalidated §15.270; civil/criminal                                        |

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|               | §§15.261–15.275                                              | client/property matters                                                                                            | opportunity to comment §15.263(2)                                                                                  | property; negotiations; litigation; security                                              | penalties §§15.272–15.273                                                                                                   |
| Minnesota     | Open Meeting Law, Minn. Stat. §§13D.01–13D.07                | Closed meetings under §13D.03; attorney-client, labor, property, security                                          | No universal statutory right                                                                                       | Personnel; litigation; labor; real estate; security                                       | Injunction; civil penalties; attorney fees; action may be challenged §13D.06                                                |
| Mississippi   | Open Meetings Act, Miss. Code §§25-41-1–17                   | Executive sessions under §25-41-7                                                                                  | No general statutory comment right                                                                                 | Personnel; litigation; real estate; negotiations; security; investigations                | Civil penalties; court enforcement; action may be voided/challenged §25-41-15                                               |
| Missouri      | Sunshine Law, Mo. Rev. Stat. §§610.010–610.035               | Closed meetings under §610.021; judicial proceedings                                                               | No general statutory right                                                                                         | Personnel; litigation; real estate; sealed bids; attorney-client; security                | Civil penalties; knowing/purposeful violations have enhanced penalties; attorney fees; court may invalidate action §610.027 |
| Montana       | Montana Constitution Art. II §§8–9; Mont. Code §§2-3-201–221 | Privacy exception; judiciary/jury deliberations; limited litigation exception                                      | Yes/strong participation framework: public participation required by §2-3-103, local participation under §7-1-4142 | Privacy; pending litigation where open meeting would harm litigation position §2-3-203(4) | Action may be voided §2-3-114; attorney fees/costs §2-3-221; constitutional right to observe Art. II §9.                    |
| Nebraska      | Open Meetings Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§84-1407–1414            | Executive sessions under §84-1410; judicial proceedings                                                            | Yes/limited: reasonable opportunity under §84-1412                                                                 | Personnel; litigation; property; negotiations; security                                   | Action can be declared void; civil penalties; attorney fees §§84-1414, 84-1412                                              |
| Nevada        | Open Meeting Law, NRS §§241.010–241.040                      | Legislature/legislative committees generally outside OML; quasi-judicial proceedings; limited statutory exclusions | Yes: public comment provisions under NRS 241.020                                                                   | Personnel; litigation; property; attorney-client; security                                | Civil penalties; court may invalidate action; injunction NRS 241.040                                                        |
| New Hampshire | Right-to-Know Law, RSA §§91-A:1–9                            | Nonpublic sessions under §91-A:3; judicial proceedings                                                             | No universal statutory right                                                                                       | Personnel; reputation; litigation; real estate; legal advice; security                    | Injunction; civil penalties; action may be challenged; attorney fees                                                        |

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| New Jersey     | Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. §§10:4-6–21        | Nine principal exceptions §10:4-12(b); judiciary excluded                            | Yes for municipal governing bodies and boards of education §10:4-12(a) | Personnel; litigation/legal privilege; real estate; collective bargaining; security; confidential matters                  | §91-A:7<br>Action may be voided §10:4-15; injunction §10:4-16; fines \$100 first offense, \$100–\$500 subsequent §10:4-17. |
| New Mexico     | Open Meetings Act, NMSA §§10-15-1–4                   | Closed sessions under §10-15-1(H); judiciary/quasi-judicial matters                  | Yes/meaningful opportunity in covered proceedings                      | Personnel; litigation; real estate; bargaining; security                                                                   | Civil penalties; injunction/mandamus; action may be challenged §10-15-3                                                    |
| New York       | Open Meetings Law, N.Y. Public Officers Law §§100–111 | Certain proceedings exempt under §108; eight executive-session categories under §105 | No general statutory right to speak                                    | Public safety; law-enforcement investigations; litigation; collective bargaining; personnel; exams; real estate/securities | Court may void action; attorney fees where material private voting/deliberations occurred §107.                            |
| North Carolina | Open Meetings Law, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§143-318.9–.18    | Closed sessions under §143-318.11; judicial/quasi-judicial matters                   | No universal statutory right                                           | Personnel; attorney-client; litigation; property; negotiations; security                                                   | Court enforcement; attorney fees; action can be invalidated in appropriate cases §143-318.16A                              |
| North Dakota   | Open Meetings Law, N.D. Cent. Code §§44-04-17.1–17.2  | Closed meetings under §44-04-19.1; statutory confidentiality                         | No general statutory right                                             | Attorney consultation; litigation; personnel; negotiations; security                                                       | Civil penalties; attorney fees; court enforcement §44-04-21.2                                                              |
| Ohio           | Open Meetings Act, Ohio Rev. Code §121.22             | Executive sessions under §121.22(G); judicial/quasi-judicial proceedings             | No universal statutory right                                           | Personnel; litigation; property; security; collective bargaining                                                           | Injunction; civil forfeiture; action may be invalidated; attorney fees §121.22(I)                                          |
| Oklahoma       | Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. §§301–314                   | Legislature; judiciary; executive sessions under §307                                | No general statutory right                                             | Personnel; litigation; real estate; negotiations; confidential investigations                                              | Criminal penalties; civil enforcement; action may be invalidated §313                                                      |

Subtle Substance

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| Oregon         | Public Meetings Law, ORS §§192.610–192.705              | Executive sessions under §192.660; certain quasi-judicial proceedings | Yes/meaningful opportunity under applicable provisions                                         | Personnel; labor; litigation; real estate; security; trade secrets                                                                 | Civil penalties; injunction; attorney fees; action may be challenged §192.680                                                                                            |
| Pennsylvania   | Sunshine Act, 65 Pa. Stat. §§701–716                    | Executive sessions §708; conferences/work sessions §707               | Yes for political-subdivision boards/councils §710.1                                           | Personnel; litigation; real estate; labor; privileged information; security                                                        | Action may be invalidated §713; fines \$100–\$1,000 first / \$500–\$2,000 subsequent §714; attorney fees §714.1.                                                         |
| Rhode Island   | Open Meetings Act, R.I. Gen. Laws §§42-46-1–13          | Executive sessions under §42-46-5                                     | No universal statutory right                                                                   | Personnel; litigation; real estate; negotiations; security                                                                         | Civil penalties; injunction; action may be voided; attorney fees §42-46-8                                                                                                |
| South Carolina | FOIA/Open Meetings, S.C. Code §§30-4-60–110             | Executive sessions under §30-4-70                                     | No general statutory right                                                                     | Personnel; legal advice; litigation; real estate; negotiations; security                                                           | Injunction; civil penalties; criminal penalties for willful violations §30-4-110                                                                                         |
| South Dakota   | Open Meetings, S.D. Codified Laws §§1-25-1–18           | Executive sessions under §1-25-2                                      | No general statutory right                                                                     | Personnel; litigation; property; negotiations; security                                                                            | Civil penalties; court enforcement; action may be challenged §1-25-6                                                                                                     |
| Tennessee      | Open Meetings/Sunshine Law, Tenn. Code §§8-44-101–109   | Judicial/quasi-judicial proceedings; statutory exceptions             | Limited/no general statutory comment right                                                     | Personnel; litigation; property; security; negotiations                                                                            | Action can be voided; attorney fees/costs in qualifying circumstances; civil enforcement §8-44-105                                                                       |
| Texas          | Texas Open Meetings Act, Tex. Gov't Code §§551.001–.146 | Executive exceptions §§551.071–.089; Legislature has special rules    | Now statutory for specified governmental bodies §551.007; not a universal right for every body | Attorney consultation §551.071; real property §551.072; personnel §551.074; security §551.076; economic development §551.087, etc. | Action voidable §551.141; mandamus/injunction §551.142; knowing closed-meeting violation \$100–\$500 and/or 1–6 months jail §551.144; serial-meeting violation §551.143. |

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| Utah          | Open and Public Meetings Act, Utah Code §§52-4-101–305     | Closed meetings under §52-4-205; specified quasi-judicial matters                                                               | No universal statutory right                                                                   | Personnel; litigation; property; negotiations; security; intellectual property                 | Action may be voided; civil penalties; attorney fees §§52-4-302–305                                                                                                                          |
| Vermont       | Open Meeting Law, 1 V.S.A. §§310–314                       | Executive sessions under §313; quasi-judicial deliberations and legally confidential matters                                    | Yes: reasonable opportunity to comment §312(h)                                                 | Contracts; labor; arbitration; personnel; real estate; litigation; security; student matters   | Knowing/intentional violation is misdemeanor, up to \$500 §314(a); injunction/declaratory relief §314(c).                                                                                    |
| Virginia      | FOIA Public Meetings, Va. Code §§2.2-3700–3715             | Closed meetings under §2.2-3711; judiciary and certain legislative proceedings                                                  | No universal statutory right, although many bodies must provide comment under other provisions | Personnel; legal advice; litigation; real estate; security; contracts                          | Civil penalties; injunction/mandamus; attorney fees §§2.2-3713, 2.2-3714                                                                                                                     |
| Washington    | Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30                        | Certain licensing/disciplinary and quasi-judicial matters excluded §42.30.140; executive sessions §42.30.110                    | Yes: opportunity at/before every regular meeting at which final action is taken §42.30.240     | Personnel; real estate; litigation; collective bargaining; security; complaints/investigations | Action null and void §42.30.060; mandamus/injunction §42.30.130; personal civil penalty \$500 first/\$1,000 subsequent §42.30.120; prevailing plaintiff gets costs/attorney fees §42.30.120. |
| West Virginia | Open Governmental Proceedings Act, W. Va. Code §§6-9A-1–12 | Executive sessions under §6-9A-4; judiciary and certain quasi-judicial proceedings                                              | Limited: reasonable opportunity where required by statute/body rules                           | Personnel; litigation; real estate; negotiations; security                                     | Injunction; actions may be annulled; criminal misdemeanor and fines §§6-9A-7, 6-9A-8                                                                                                         |
| Wisconsin     | Open Meetings Law, Wis. Stat. §§19.81–19.98                | Closed-session exceptions under §19.85; collective bargaining excluded from definition of governmental body in certain contexts | No general statutory right; public comment may be provided by notice §19.84(2)                 | Personnel; litigation; property; negotiations; licensing; security                             | \$25–\$300 per violation §19.96; court may void action §19.97(3); attorney fees §19.97(4).                                                                                                   |
| Wyoming       | Public Meetings Act, Wyo. Stat.                            | Executive sessions under §16-4-405; judicial proceedings                                                                        | No universal statutory                                                                         | Personnel; litigation; property;                                                               | Action may be declared void; civil penalties; injunction/mandamus §16-4-                                                                                                                     |

§§16-4-401–  
408 and statutory  
exclusions right  
negotiations;  
security 408

| State   | Court can<br>void action?                                                                                 | Who can sue?                                                   | Attorney-fee<br>recovery?     | Individual or<br>official liability?                           | Criminal<br>liability?                                            | Cure/correct<br>requirement                                                                            |
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| Alabama | Yes, limited<br>§36-25A-9                                                                                 | AG, DA, media, and<br>qualifying citizen<br>§36-25A-9          | Yes, potentially<br>§36-25A-9 | Yes, civil<br>penalty                                          | No general<br>OMA crime                                           | No formal<br>Brown-Act-<br>style cure<br>procedure                                                     |
| Alaska  | Yes, highly<br>limited AS<br>44.62.310(f)<br>; court<br>balances<br>public<br>interest<br>against<br>harm | Aggrieved/personall<br>y affected persons;<br>media recognized | Limited/discretionar<br>y     | Civil<br>liability/penaltie<br>s in specified<br>circumstances | Generally no                                                      | Public body<br>can<br>reconsider;<br>court<br>considers<br>subsequent<br>public<br>reconsideratio<br>n |
| Arizona | Yes A.R.S.<br>§38-431.05                                                                                  | Any person; AG<br>may enforce                                  | Yes §38-431.07                | Yes, civil<br>penalties                                        | Yes,<br>knowing<br>violations<br>can be<br>criminal<br>§38-431.07 | No mandatory<br>pre-suit<br>Brown-Act-<br>style cure                                                   |

Subtle Substance

| State       | Court can void action?                      | Who can sue?                                                  | Attorney-fee recovery?    | Individual or official liability?                  | Criminal liability?             | Cure/correct requirement                                                                             |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Arkansas    | Yes                                         | Citizen/person with standing; AG/other authorized enforcement | Yes in qualifying actions | Civil/criminal consequences depending on violation | Yes for willful violations      | No general statutory cure demand                                                                     |
| California  | Yes Gov. Code §§54960, 54960.1              | Any interested person; DA/AG in specified circumstances       | Yes §54960.5              | Yes, personal criminal liability under §54959      | Yes, misdemeanor under §54959   | Yes unusually formal: written cure-and-correct demand §54960.1; cease-and-desist procedure §54960.2. |
| Colorado    | Yes/limited §24-6-402(8)                    | Any person may seek judicial enforcement                      | Yes §24-6-402(9)          | Generally no individual statutory fine             | No general OML crime            | No formal cure demand                                                                                |
| Connecticut | Limited                                     | Aggrieved person; AG in specified enforcement                 | Possible                  | Civil penalties in specified cases                 | Generally no general OML crime  | No general cure requirement                                                                          |
| Delaware    | Yes/limited                                 | Any person; AG                                                | Yes, potentially          | Civil penalties                                    | Potential statutory penalties   | No general cure demand                                                                               |
| Florida     | Yes, but not automatically §286.011(3), (8) | Any citizen; AG/state attorneys                               | Yes §286.011(4)           | Yes, civil/criminal penalties                      | Yes, knowing/willful violations | No general statutory cure-and-correct demand                                                         |
| Georgia     | Yes/limited                                 | Any person; AG; district attorney                             | Yes §50-18-73             | Yes                                                | Yes for knowing/willful         | No general cure procedure                                                                            |

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|               |                         |                                                                         |                          |                                            |                                                      | violations                                                                                 |  |
| Hawaii        | Yes HRS §92-11          | Any person; AG                                                          | Yes §92-12               | Yes, statutory penalties                   | Limited/statutory                                    | No Brown-Act-style pre-suit cure                                                           |  |
| Idaho         | Yes/limited             | Any person; AG/prosecuting authority                                    | Yes §74-208              | Yes, civil penalties                       | Generally no general criminal offense                | No formal cure demand                                                                      |  |
| Illinois      | Yes 5 ILCS 120/3        | Any person; AG Public Access Counselor; state's attorney                | Yes §3                   | Yes, civil penalties                       | Yes for certain knowing violations                   | Yes in limited form: public body may cure/ratify under §3; AG enforcement process          |  |
| Indiana       | Yes/limited             | Any person; public access counselor; prosecutor                         | Yes/limited              | Yes, civil penalties                       | Generally no broad ODL crime                         | No general cure demand                                                                     |  |
| Iowa          | Yes Iowa Code §21.6     | Any person; AG/county attorney                                          | Yes §21.6                | Yes, civil penalties                       | Yes in specified circumstances                       | No formal cure procedure                                                                   |  |
| Kansas        | Limited                 | Any person; AG/county/district attorney                                 | Possible                 | Yes, civil penalties §75-4320a             | Generally no general misdemeanor for every violation | No general cure demand                                                                     |  |
| Kentucky      | Yes/limited             | Any person; Attorney General                                            | Yes KRS §61.848          | Yes, civil penalties                       | Generally no general OMA crime                       | No formal Brown-Act-style cure                                                             |  |
| Louisiana     | Yes/limited             | Any person; DA/AG                                                       | Yes                      | Yes, civil penalties                       | Yes, willful violations can be criminal              | No general cure demand                                                                     |  |
| Maine         | Limited/possible        | Aggrieved person; AG                                                    | Yes, in qualifying cases | Yes, civil penalties                       | Generally no broad criminal offense                  | No general cure procedure                                                                  |  |
| Maryland      | Limited                 | Any person; Open Meetings Compliance Board process; AG in certain cases | Limited                  | Civil penalties in specified circumstances | Generally no general OMA crime                       | Yes/administrative correction is important; Compliance Board can recommend remedial action |  |
| Massachusetts | Yes/limited             | Any person; AG has primary enforcement                                  | Yes/limited              | Yes, civil penalties                       | Generally no criminal offense under current OML      | AG can require corrective measures; no Brown-Act-style citizen demand                      |  |
| Michigan      | Yes MCL §15.270         | Any person; AG/prosecutor                                               | Yes §15.271              | Yes, civil fines                           | Yes for intentional violations                       | No formal cure demand                                                                      |  |
| Minnesota     | Yes Minn. Stat. §13D.06 | Any person; county attorney/AG                                          | Yes §13D.06              | Yes, civil penalties                       | Generally no broad criminal OML offense              | No formal cure requirement                                                                 |  |
| Mississippi   | Yes/limited             | Any person; AG/DA                                                       | Yes                      | Yes, civil penalties                       | Generally no broad criminal offense                  | No formal cure procedure                                                                   |  |

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| Missouri       | Yes §610.027                  | Any person; AG/prosecutor                  | Yes                                                |  | Yes, civil penalties                       | Yes, purposeful violations carry enhanced penalties | No formal cure demand                                                           |
| Montana        | Yes §2-3-114                  | Any person; AG/prosecutor                  | Yes §2-3-221                                       |  | Yes, statutory penalties                   | Limited                                             | No Brown-Act-style cure demand; subsequent public reconsideration may matter    |
| Nebraska       | Yes §84-1414                  | Any person; AG/county attorney             | Yes                                                |  | Yes, civil penalties                       | Yes, certain knowing violations                     | No general cure demand                                                          |
| Nevada         | Yes NRS §241.036              | Any person; AG                             | Yes/limited                                        |  | Yes, civil penalties                       | Yes for knowing/willful violations                  | No general Brown-Act cure requirement                                           |
| New Hampshire  | Yes/limited                   | Any person; AG                             | Yes/limited                                        |  | Civil penalties                            | Limited                                             | No formal cure demand                                                           |
| New Jersey     | Yes N.J.S.A. §10:4-15         | Any person; AG/prosecutor                  | Yes §10:4-16                                       |  | Yes, statutory fines                       | Generally no broad criminal offense                 | No formal pre-suit cure, but court may order corrective action                  |
| New Mexico     | Yes §10-15-3                  | Any person; AG/DA                          | Yes                                                |  | Yes, civil penalties                       | Limited                                             | No formal Brown-Act cure                                                        |
| New York       | Yes Public Officers Law §107  | Any person; AG/DA in certain circumstances | Yes, especially material private deliberation/vote |  | Generally no personal OML monetary penalty | Generally no OML criminal offense                   | No formal cure demand; subsequent lawful reconsideration may cure some defects. |
| North Carolina | Yes/limited                   | Any person; AG/DA                          | Yes/limited                                        |  | Limited                                    | Generally no broad OML criminal offense             | No formal cure demand                                                           |
| North Dakota   | Yes/limited                   | Any person; AG                             | Yes                                                |  | Yes, civil penalties                       | Limited                                             | No formal cure                                                                  |
| Ohio           | Yes Ohio Rev. Code §121.22(I) | Any person; prosecutor/AG                  | Yes                                                |  | Yes, civil forfeiture                      | Limited criminal exposure                           | No general cure demand                                                          |
| Oklahoma       | Yes/limited                   | Any person; DA/AG                          | Yes/limited                                        |  | Yes                                        | Yes, knowing violations can be criminal             | No general cure requirement                                                     |
| Oregon         | Yes/limited ORS §192.680      | Any person; AG/DA                          | Yes                                                |  | Yes, civil penalties                       | Limited                                             | No formal cure demand                                                           |
| Pennsylvania   | Yes 65 P.S. §713              | Any person; AG/DA                          | Yes §714.1                                         |  | Yes, fines                                 | Yes, criminal provisions exist                      | No Brown-Act-style demand                                                       |
| Rhode Island   | Yes/limited                   | Any person; AG                             | Yes                                                |  | Yes, civil penalties                       | Limited                                             | No general cure procedure                                                       |
| South Carolina | Yes/limited                   | Any person; AG/solicitor                   | Yes/limited                                        |  | Yes                                        | Yes, willful violations                             | No formal cure demand                                                           |
| South          | Yes/limited                   | Any person; state's                        | Limited                                            |  | Yes, civil                                 | Limited                                             | No formal cure                                                                  |

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|               |                                         |                                                                               |                                                              |                                                  |                                            |                                                                                               |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dakota        |                                         | attorney/AG                                                                   |                                                              | penalties                                        |                                            |                                                                                               |
| Tennessee     | Yes Tenn. Code §8-44-105                | Any citizen; AG/DA                                                            | Yes/limited                                                  | Limited                                          | Limited                                    | No formal cure requirement                                                                    |
| Texas         | Yes “voidable” §551.141                 | Interested person, including news media §551.142; AG for specified violations | Yes, discretionary §551.142(b)                               | Yes §551.143–145                                 | Yes, misdemeanor §§551.143–145             | No general Brown-Act-style cure demand; lawful subsequent action can cure some defects        |
| Utah          | Yes/limited §52-4-302                   | Any person; AG/DA                                                             | Yes §52-4-303                                                | Yes, civil penalties                             | Limited                                    | No formal cure demand                                                                         |
| Vermont       | Yes                                     | Any person aggrieved; AG 1 V.S.A. §314(c)                                     | Yes, generally mandatory if substantially prevailing §314(d) | Yes, up to \$500                                 | Yes misdemeanor §314(a)                    | Strong mandatory cure process: written notice → 10-day response → 14-day cure period §314(b). |
| Virginia      | Limited                                 | Any citizen; AG/attorney for Commonwealth                                     | Yes §2.2-3713                                                | Yes, civil penalties                             | Yes, knowing violations can be criminal    | No general cure demand                                                                        |
| Washington    | Yes null and void RCW §42.30.060        | Any person; broad standing §§42.30.120–130                                    | Yes, mandatory for prevailing plaintiff §42.30.120           | Yes: \$500 first / \$1,000 subsequent §42.30.120 | No: OPMA violation expressly isn't a crime | No pre-suit cure requirement; agency can later properly reconsider action.                    |
| West Virginia | Yes/limited                             | Any person; AG/prosecutor                                                     | Yes/limited                                                  | Yes                                              | Yes, misdemeanor §§6-9A-7, -8              | No general cure demand                                                                        |
| Wisconsin     | Yes, discretionary Wis. Stat. §19.97(3) | Any person; DA/AG; private parties                                            | Yes §19.97(4)                                                | Yes: \$25–\$300 §19.96                           | No general criminal OML offense            | No formal cure; court weighs public interest in enforcement before voiding.                   |
| Wyoming       | Yes/limited                             | Any person; AG/DA                                                             | Limited                                                      | Yes, civil penalties                             | Limited                                    | Yes in practical effect: agency may cure by substantial reconsideration in open session.      |

I would not bank on any civil liabilities as they usually cost more to bring than would be gained in this instance, but the major thing is whether an illegal action can be invalidated. It is stated in the chart with the respective jurisdictions. Please ignore the highlights, those are for personal use and may not have any bearing on what you may use this for.

Overall as you can see, the right of speech is the foundation, so some jurisdictions embedded their right to participate in municipal meetings into their “Freedom of Information” verbiages while others retain a separate body of legislature for participation in municipal meetings such as “Open Meetings...” “Open Door...” “Public Meeting...” e.t.c.

Hope this assists a bit in corroborating some things. I found this in a pdf book on Archive.org that deals with principles of freedom of information dating back to the iron ages. I have since misplaced the original documents but I recalled extracting parts of it which is herein.



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